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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1048
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Jim Helton for his accomplishments as an educator and as the Athletic Director for Oak Ridge High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such remarkable person is Mr. Jim Helton, who has selflessly served the people of Oak Ridge in numerous capacities in the fields of education and athletics; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated educator, Mr. Helton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Science degree in Guidance from Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton has diligently served the Oak Ridge community through his employment with the Oak Ridge City School System; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Mr. Helton, wanting to make a difference in the lives of the young people of his community, began his professional career as a Guidance Counselor and as

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Chairman of the Guidance Department with the Oak Ridge City School System and served Oak Ridge High School in this capacity until 1973; and

WHEREAS, after his service as a Guidance Counselor, Mr. Helton accepted the position of Assistant Principal of Student Affairs and served the people of Oak Ridge in this position for four years; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Mr. Helton became the Administrative Vice Principal and Athletic Director of Oak Ridge High School, in which positions he has exhibited tremendous leadership ability; and

WHEREAS, as Athletic Director, Mr. Helton works with 29 athletic teams, 43 coaches and over 600 student athletes at Oak Ridge High School; and

WHEREAS, during his 25 year tenure as Athletic Director, Oak Ridge High School has enjoyed remarkable athletic success, earning 20 State Championships; and

WHEREAS, due to his extraordinary accomplishments as Athletic Director, Mr. Helton has received numerous honors and awards including being named TSSAA Athletic Director of the Year three times; and

WHEREAS, a man of impeccable character, Jim Helton has earned the respect of his peers, students and their parents alike for his exemplary commitment to serving the young people of his community; and

WHEREAS, despite a highly successful and demanding career, Jim Helton has remained committed to the time-honored values of family and community, subscribing to the highest order of those values by placing the success of his marriage and family far above that of his professional career; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful to share both love and companionship with his loving wife, Eleanor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton is the proud father of Sinden Cotter and her husband Tim; Tasha Endsley and her husband Dan; and Amy Bzorgi and her husband Lee; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties to the community, Jim Helton is a loving and caring grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton has served the people of Oak Ridge with distinction, not only as an educator, but also as a community leader, mentor, neighbor, and friend; and

WHEREAS, Jim Helton epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jim Helton for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Mr. Jim Helton for his meritorious service to the good people of Oak Ridge as an educator and Athletic Director at Oak Ridge High School and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.